

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office  
FLOOR DEBATE

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Since the custom after the State of the State is reaction by the Legislature and there's a considerable amount of movement and interviews and things like that, we will not go back to debating rules after the State of the State. We'll start that after lunch today. So we'll have referencing after the State of the State and we'll do a few other clean-up items, but we will work until, I suppose, a quarter or ten till 10:00. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, the motion to adopt permanent rules was offered by Senator Hudkins yesterday. I have pending now what I'm going to characterize as committee amendment number two, rules change proposal as offered by the Rules Committee, involves changes affecting the consent calendar, Mr. President. (Legislative Journal pages 160-162.)

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Hudkins, you're recognized to open on this portion.

SENATOR HUDKINS: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. Yes, the second proposal that the Rules Committee has forwarded for your consideration has to do with consent calendar. For the benefit of the newer members of the body, we haven't had consent calendar for a couple of years because of various happenstance, but right now with consent calendar that is used for bills that are seen as fairly noncontroversial, straightforward, not a lot of amendments, and could come out of committee with no more than two negative votes from the committee to be considered for consent calendar. We have changed that portion to where it will be a unanimous vote from committee, so that there could not be any negative votes. We have also left in the provision that, if you really don't like a bill that has been scheduled on consent, it is your prerogative then to find two other senators that feel like you do and put in a written request to have that particular bill removed from consent calendar. The main language that we're changing is right now you have 15 minute time limit to debate a bill that's on consent. At the end of that 15 minutes, if the introducer is not closing, it automatically is removed from the agenda. We have changed that. Now, at the end of that 15 minutes, there will be a vote on the bill. If we're on an amendment to the bill then we will vote on the amendment and immediately go to